

MINING DISASTER.

SIX MEN SUFFOCATED IN A PENN SYLVANIA COAL MINE

Anthracite Coal Gas the Cause of their Death—Brave Conduct of the Miners in the Attempt to Rescue their Comrades.
By Telegraph to THE REPUBLICAN
CLEVELAND, July 11.
It is reported that between 1 and 2 o'clock

This afternoon an explosion occurred in the mines of the Brookfield Coal Company, near Wheatland, Pa., on the Erie and Pittsburgh railroad, between Sharon and New Castle. Pa. Fourteen bodies have already been recovered. There is said to have been between thirty and forty men at work at the time of the explosion.

A LATER DISPATCH.

CLEVELAND, OHIO, July 11.—The Brookfield coal mine disaster at Wheatland, Pa., is not as bad as first reported. Dead men from the place are the number of the disaster. Their names are Robert Williams, Niles Williams, Jones, David Jenkins, Richard Jones and Judd Harten. Twenty-seven more men were nearly suffocated. The coal from the Brookfield mine is hauled to Erie by the Erie Railroad. This morning the managers of the mine ordered anthracite coal burned in the engine furnace, instead of soft coal heretofore used. About 10 o'clock the engine started, and about 11 A.M. after being in a short time the men in charge of the engine became suddenly affected by the gas from the hard coal, causing them to fall to the ground in a senseless condition.

The engineer managed to make his way back to the mouth of the bank and gave the alarm.

the bank to rescue their comrades. One after another they passed in, but were almost immediately overcome by the gas, and they too became insensible. After several had thus fallen, a gang was organized to rescue those who went in last and a squad of four or five passed in until the came to a fallen comrade, when they would take him in their arms and carry him out to open air. In this way thirty-six men were brought out, six of whom were either dead or nearly reaching the mouth of the bank or died immediately after. Wheatland is a small

The Origin of Handicapping.
Most persons who take an interest in sports

ing events are well aware what the word "handicap" means, but perhaps very few of them know the origin of the expression. The origin of handicapping is to be found in a custom at one time, perhaps, as prevalent in England as the modern practice of ruffing. The

person, let it be supposed, had a pocket-knife which he wished to exchange for another person's pencil-case. He would "challenge" the owner of the pencil-case to make them exchange with him, and this being agreed to, third person would be found to "make the award," or, in other words, to arbitrate as to which of the two articles was the more valuable, and to award a certain sum by way of equalling them. Before the award was made, each of the three would deposit in a hat or cap a certain stake, which the arbitrator would appropriate in the event of his award proving satisfactory to both parties, or in the event of his award proving satisfactory to neither party. The way in which this willingness or unwillingness to abide by the award of the umpire was

The two exchange partners stood up with a "hand-firm-the-cap," and the award being uttered—after an amount of circumlocution purposely intended to confuse them—they were instantly to withdraw their hands and open them. If both hands held money, then, both were understood to accept the award, the exchange was made, and the arbitrator pocketed the stakes. If neither held money the bargain was concluded, and the stakes were still forfeited to the arbitrator. If only one of the two

played a coin, that one drew the stakes, and the exchange was not made. According to modern rules "a handicap match for A, B and C, in which A is to play the ball, and B the handiepaper, makes a match for A and B, while, when they have perused it, put it in their hands into their pockets and draw them out, and find that neither has a handiepaper, and both have money in their hands the match is confirmed; if neither have money it is a match." Thus it will be seen that, where "a pocket" is the word, it literally means "a handiepaper." The word has become a standard expression.

A Nobleman's Freaks.

The Earl of Dudley is a British nobleman whose eccentricities are as incompatible as his income, and London society never has yet seen a man who will do next. Some years ago he was seized by a fit of the "freaks" and took to a ball at his mansion, in three color pink, white and crimson. As the guests arrived they were shown into different parts of the mansion, and the Earl, who was waiting in the evening was far advanced his lords was discovered to have sent white cards to the women of the world about whom scandal has raised doubts, and crimson cards to all the

about whom scandal had left nobody room
entertain any doubts at all. It may be
imagined how popular the Earl was made by
ingenious proceeding. His latest frank
performed the other day. He determined
give a ball, and issued invitations on vast
cards. A few days before the festivity a
who had been honored with one of these cards
was told what a noble and generous

he had seen her somewhere in dark apparel and that she must either lay aside her mourning or deny herself the pleasure of attending his ball. The lady in question accepted the latter alternative. On the morning of the next day she was introduced to another lady who had been the recipient

French Newspaper Fights.
PARIS, July 11.—The *Moniteur* censures agitation carried on by M. Rouher, and accuses him of wishing to play the part of Vauvenargues. It says the Cabinet has been not his dupes, but will not become his accomplices. An article in *Revue des Deux Mondes* yesterday, attacking M. Rouher, was also censured.

Judge Lynch Again.

BOWLING GREEN, Ky., July 11.—The body of Miss Burton who had been missed from home at Point Olive, Allen county, Ky., was found near the residence of her brother-in-law, George Stark, with two bullet holes in her head and her body in an advanced state of decomposition. Stark was arrested as the murderer of Miss Burton.

Gen. Custer's Remains.
CHICAGO, July 11.—A dispatch from Mack says the steamer Fiedler has just arrived from Little Big Horn, bringing the remains of Custer and other officers massacred with him July 25, 1876. They will all be taken to Fort Lincoln.

Accident to Secretary Sherman's Boat
 BOSTON, July 11.—A Rockland, Me. schooner says the revenue steamer Grant, with four men on board, struck a rock at spruce island although kept was detained several hours.

A County Treasurer Wanted.
CINCINNATI, July 11.—The chief of police has received information that Frank Kutz, treasurer of Howard county, disappeared. The amount of the deficiency is not known.

To be Hanged.
NEW ORLEANS, July 11.—The Governor today signed the death warrant of Julius Guider, convicted of the murder of John Wells August, 1877.